

March 2003

TO: Chief Justices

FROM: Burnham H. (Hod) Greeley, Chair, Coalition for Justice

RE: 2003 Survey of Bar/Court Justice Improvement Activities

Are you working on projects to improve the justice system or thinking about launching a justice improvement project? The ABA Coalition for Justice would like to publicize your projects and assist you in learning what other courts and bars are doing in justice reform.

The Coalition periodically surveys state and local bar associations, state chief justices, and administrators of large metropolitan trial courts to find out what's new in justice reform. We are also sending copies of the survey to members of the Conference of State Court Administrators listserv. We are particularly interested in justice improvement activities that include partnerships with the non-lawyer public. Our purpose is to promote justice reform by compiling information on successful programs--such as yours--in a Summary Report and distributing it to as many bar leaders, court personnel, and community groups as possible. Our 2001 survey data, currently on the Web at www.abanet.org/justice and published in the *Summary of State and Local Justice Improvement Activities--2001*, needs updating and we need your help.

We are requesting an updated Checklist and narrative report of your current and planned justice reform projects. To assist you, we have enclosed a copy of your state's narrative report (blue) from the 2001 Survey, a blank Checklist form (ivory), and Instructions (pink) for submitting the Checklist and a narrative report.

In order to enhance the efficiency of gathering your information, we encourage you to complete the Checklist electronically at www.abanet.org/justice and to send your narrative report as a word processing document, either as an email attachment or on a disk. Of course, we want your response, no matter what the format. See the Instructions (pink) for details. Please submit your *Checklist* and *narrative report* by **Wednesday, April 30, 2003**. We will notify you when the Summary Report is complete so that you can request a copy or access the report on the Web.

We realize that your time is valuable. As a token of our appreciation for your completing our survey, we have enclosed a *Roadmap* Coupon (green) for you to use to request a complimentary copy of one of our "how to" booklets on justice reform topics.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation with this survey. If you have any questions, please contact Deidra Franklin (Tel. 312/988-6138; e-mail: dfranklin3@staff.abanet.org).